

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, April 6, 1995

Published Since 1877

## Graham crusade extends first worldwide invitation

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Evangelist Billy Graham completed Global Mission, the most extraordinary mission of his 50-year ministry, March 20 from a baseball stadium in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The evangelist became the first person in history to give a global invitation, urging a worldwide audience of more than 1 billion people to come forward and make faith commitments to Christ.

"No matter what language you speak, no matter what culture you're from, no matter what situation you find yourself in — all around the world, come and give your heart to Christ," Graham said in his satellite broadcast to 3,000 mission locations in 185 countries and 116 languages.

Mission sites ranged from capital city cathedrals to outdoor jungle auditoriums to 65,000-seat stadiums — even open fields.

More than 1 billion people will hear Graham's message on the cross of Christ to be broadcast the week of Easter during prime time on national television networks in 117 countries.

"God is saying from the cross to all of us that he loves us, that he will give us peace and joy and happiness that we have never known," he said.

The theme of the outreach is "The Time Is Now." Global Mission is a united statement by the church worldwide of the relevance of the gospel message, which transcends boundaries of geography and political ideology, offering hope to a despairing world.

"Almost everyone in the world is religious, but they don't all know Christ as Lord and Savior," Graham said. "Millions of people are searching for God through religion, and not finding him. Some people have had just enough of a religious experience to keep them from really knowing Christ."

During the years of preparation, more than 1.5 million Christians around the world were trained in how to share their faith. Over 500,000 were qualified as counselors to assist those who came forward at each of the mission locations.

A three-day Christian workers' conference was transmitted as part of Global Mission to all of the same places in all of the same languages. This conference — the largest of its kind ever held — provided intensive training to strengthen, encourage and instruct 500,000 pastors and key lay people around the world.

### Puerto Rico

There was a festive air at the stadium in San Juan each night of the Graham crusade — his third on the island following meetings in 1967 and 1958. Many people carried Puerto Rican flags and the choir waved their colorful song books during the musical portions of the program.

More than 2,500 churches representing 38 denominations cooperated in the crusade preparations. Jose D. Camacho, president of the executive committee for the crusade in Puerto Rico, said that Graham's mission would cause an evangelistic zeal to spread not only through the island, but also the region.

"The impact on the churches here that have been cooperating with us is going to

be enormous," Camacho said. "After being involved in this wonderful mission, I believe they will not only take the gospel throughout the island, but also the Caribbean and then the world," he said.

According to Carlos J. Lastra, former secretary of state of Puerto Rico, "The support the people showed for this crusade shows that Puerto Rico is hungry for this message. This is a good sign... that Puerto Rico is ready for a change."

### Angola

In the capital city of Angola, a country recently torn by civil strife, the meetings were held in the Karl Marx Cinema. The news anchor of the national network was so impressed, he declared, "This is better than the World Cup. The evangelicals have finally scored the winning goal."

### South Africa

The Global Mission national committee in South Africa compared response to the mission there to setting fire to dry grassland. More than one million people attended

open-air gospel meetings with 50,000 decision cards distributed. More than 10,000 Christian workers from eight cities, 12 townships, and four provinces crowded into the three-day Christian workers' conference.

### India

At many venues attendance increased 100% or more throughout the days of the mission, with a commensurate increase in response. Residents of Shillong, India, braved bitterly cold weather to attend the mission at a local soccer field. Though only 700 were expected to attend, the first night's crowd of 7,000 swelled to 15,000 at the second meeting, with 30,000 at the closing service.

### Former Soviet Union

With several sites yet to report, nearly 100,000 people attended meetings across the Commonwealth of Independent States, where more than 8,500 made commitments to Christ. The Baptist church in Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, with a seating capacity of 900, crowded 1,500 people into the facility for

the first night. Eight hundred non-believers attended as a result of invitations distributed by volunteers.

In Moscow, more than 2,000 people attended the mission at the Izmailovo Sports Complex. As Graham's message began, people were still coming into the hall, and more than 300 people responded to the invitation. Many were individuals who came to faith in Christ during Graham's 1992 Moscow campaign and had brought friends with them. Many were also acting as counselors.

Missions were held in every republic of the former Yugoslavia. The president of Slovakia asked the Global Mission committee in Bratislava, "Is anything more important than saving souls?"

### African nations

In Rwanda, the satellite meetings nearly did not take place when a local official who had given verbal approval for the public meeting place to be used as the venue had left the city without notifying any of his colleagues that official permission had been granted. This did not stop local organizers who simply moved the venue to a small church. Two thousand packed into the sanctuary with an additional overflow crowd in the area outside the church.

In Zaire, Rwandan refugees attended at a food distribution compound in Goma to hear the gospel message — despite a fierce tropical downpour and fears of violence — and many responded to the invitation. Locals were encouraged by the fact that when everyone walked home in the dark, not one single incident was reported — which has not been true for many months in this city.

A number of high government officials attended two locations in Burundi, including one where a grenade exploded in the market one-half kilometer away. Electricity at a 6,000-seat church went out the day before Global Mission began and went off again about one minute after it ended.

Reconciliation took place in Cameroon when three thieves, who planned to steal the Global Mission equipment, came under conviction and gave their lives to Christ.

### Asian rim

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, some 1,500 turned up for the meeting at a Chinese cinema hall converted into a church. Many prayed the "sinner's prayer" in their seats rather than coming forward.

Church leaders in Suriname in the Caribbean fought extraordinary battles in their efforts to hold mission meetings. In the town of Nickerie, a dam broke just as a plane carrying the Global Mission videos was landing at a nearby airport. As people were being evacuated from the area, contingency plans were made to airdrop videos into the stadium for the subsequent meetings.

Global Mission will continue for the next four to six months. Many video missions will continue to be held in the countries where satellite missions took place.

Graham's next crusade will be "Mission Ontario," in Toronto, June 7-11. He will also conduct meetings in Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 18-22.



Evangelist Billy Graham launched Global Mission on March 16 from San Juan, Puerto Rico. The crusade was broadcast in 116 languages to more than 10 million people.



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

## A sesquicentennial celebration

A generation supposedly equals about 35 years. Thus, about five generations have been involved in Southern Baptist history. The Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845, growing out of the Triennial Convention and the American Baptist Home Mission Society. There were 293 "delegates" at that 1845 meeting in Augusta, Ga. All but 52 of the delegates were from Georgia and South Carolina.

Southern Baptists then began their march across the pages of history, and now we come to the 150th year. The celebration of the sesquicentennial anniversary will be held in Augusta, May 8-10 and again at the Atlanta convention meeting in June.

Earl Kelly, former executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has been a member of the sesquicentennial planning committee and says "a great program is in store for us."

In 1939 the centennial planning committee was at work for the celebration of 100 years and it was to be in June 1945 at the Atlanta convention. Then the war years came. In

1943 there was no convention. Even in 1945 the government frowned on any large gathering, so the centennial was scaled down.

In 1944, M.E. Dodd of First Church, Shreveport, led the centennial evangelistic rally and the "Baptist Hour" was broadcast from the historic First Church of Augusta. It was just as well. Now that the war was nearing an end, Southern Baptists were looking forward to the growth era.

George Truett died in 1944 and the popular Lee R. Scarborough died the next year. A doctrinal statement of purpose was issued and Baptists worked at following it for the next 30 years.

Four areas were stressed during that time, according to Jesse Fletcher in **Southern Baptist Convention Sesquicentennial History**: 1) Spiritual unity rather than ecclesiastical over lordship; 2) a world based upon the rights of all men; 3) opposing inequities in racism, economic greed, and class distinction; and 4) the repudiation of exploitation, manipulation, and indifference. The next 30 years were

known as the "Great Advance."

Now 50 more years have passed; 30 in explosive growth of Southern Baptists and 20 in a steady growth, but characterized by a bit of confusion.

The Baptist Historical Society and the Sesquicentennial Committee are leading toward a commemorative event. Perhaps taking a look at our past will give us a clear vision of what we want for the future.

The Lord has blessed Southern Baptists. Several times we have stumbled in this onward march, but managed with God's leadership to humble ourselves and realize that flesh cannot succeed.

Let the sesquicentennial be a time of spiritual reflection and a clear vision to see our need of sackcloth and ashes. It is not the outward appearance of man which impresses God. Obedience is still better than sacrifice. Denominational statistics will hardly move him, but a plea for mercy he will not turn away. Then, once again, we may be permitted to stand on the border of another great advance.

## In spirit of stewardship, observe CP Day, April 9

By James Austin

Several thousand Southern Baptist churches will observe Cooperative Program Day on April 9.

This year, we observe the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Southern Baptist Convention in Augusta, Ga., and the 70th anniversary of the birth of the Cooperative Program (CP) in Memphis.

Appropriately, our CP Day theme for 1995 is "Evangelizing ALL the Lost" (Matt. 28:19).

That theme reminds us of the primary reason for organization of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in 1845: "eliciting, combining, and directing the energies of the whole denomination in one sacred effort for the Redeemer's kingdom."

Southern Baptists are a fellowship of about 15,000,000 members in almost 40,000 churches in all 50 states. These millions of Christians work together in churches, associations, state conventions, and the SBC. Though marked by diversity, we are bound together by a love for missions and evangelism.

Since its inception the SBC has

operated on the principle of voluntary cooperation. This principle has guarded the autonomy of the local church. The SBC began as a missions organization by establishing two agencies: the Foreign Mission Board and the Domestic (Home) Mission Board.

Although early Southern Baptists desired to share the Bible in all languages, it was 1919 before they discovered how to accomplish their dream. The 75 Million Campaign was launched in 1919 to raise \$75 million in five years for state and Convention-wide denominational work. It demonstrated that by pooling funds, missions support could be more effective and equitable.

Southern Baptists initiated the Cooperative Program in 1925. This plan stabilized all the denomination's work on both the state and SBC levels. In 1925 there were about 500 Southern Baptist missionaries; in 1995 there are about 9,000.

Cooperation has made Southern Baptists the largest missionary denomination in the Christian world.

The SBC conducts its work through its agencies. All are sup-

ported by the church through the CP except the Baptist Sunday School Board.

CP Day reminds us that one of every five seminary students in the United States is enrolled in one of six Baptist seminaries. Through 36 state conventions and three fellowships, Southern Baptists support 48 senior colleges and universities, 16 junior colleges, academies, and Bible schools enrolling almost 150,000 students.

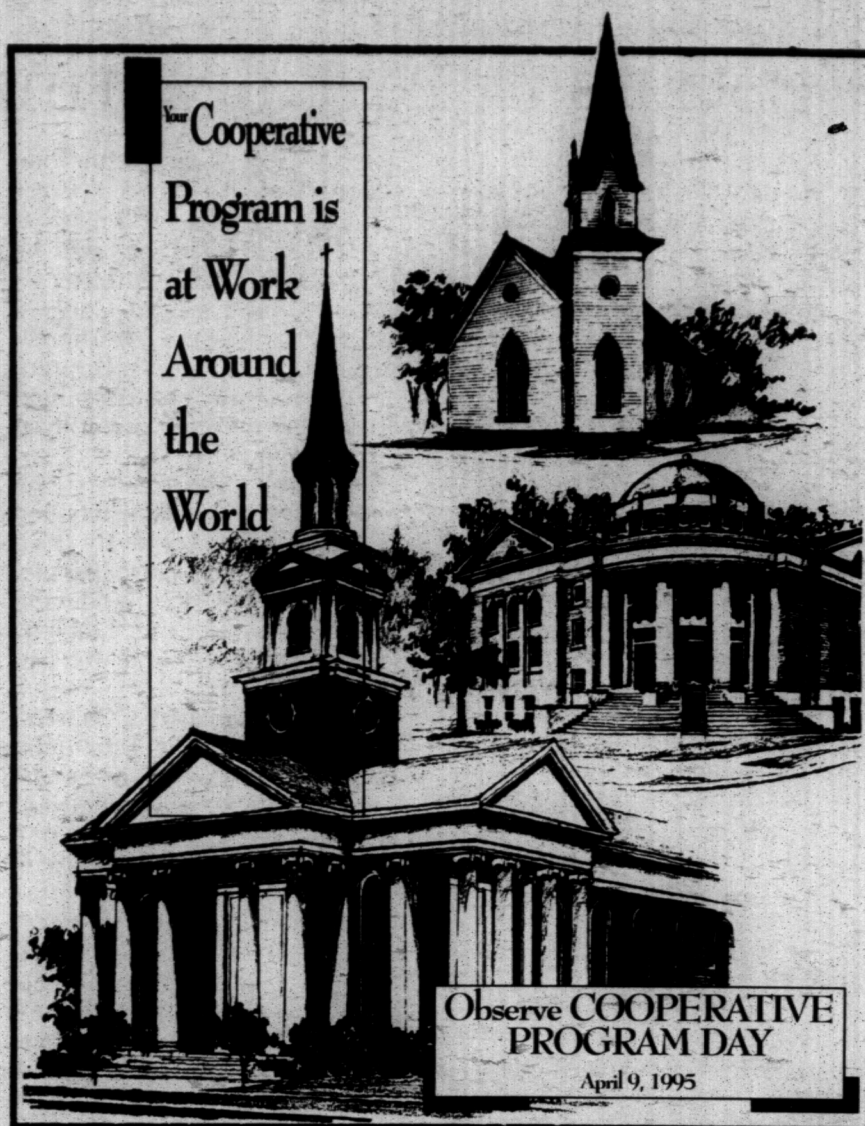
CP Day brings us to a clearer understanding of the work of our denominational agencies such as the Radio/Television Commission. The Radio/Television Commission airs six radio programs on 5,478 stations weekly. ACTS-TV network is accessible to over 24 million homes throughout the U.S.

CP Day answers the question, "What can we do?"

• Commit ourselves anew to Christ and his Great Commission.

• Examine our own giving. Set a worthy goal and make plans to reach it.

• Ask our church's stewardship and/or budget planning committee to study our church's CP giving record.



## THE FRAGMENTS

## Me and my pick-up truck

The first vehicle that I recall belonging to our family was a pick-up truck. My first driving lesson was in a pick-up. The truck did not have flashy moulding, sports stripes, nor all the windows. It was never intended for cruising, dating, nor racing; you could haul a cow or a half-cord of wood in it. No fancy ZX-800 numbers were on it, but it did have three vents that would open.

Today the pick-up truck is still considered a necessity. A pick-up to a man is what a diamond is to a woman. Knowing this, needing one, wanting one, I decided to go into a half-and-half partnership with a brother. I sent in my \$300

and was the proud half-owner of a mud-splattered, fender-dragging, LAMB-tough, mean machine.

Soon I was told that my half needed tires. At first I thought of my half being the right side or the left side. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that my half rotated to whatever was in need. Add a fuel pump, and it was on my half; back into a fence post, and "You bent your half."

However, I have to confess, I got my money's worth. Just to drive through my hometown and sense the envious stares, the prestige-building looks, and the "local-boy-makes-good" atmosphere was well worth the price. — GH

• Help our church decide to share an increasing percentage of its budget income through the CP.

• Pray for missionaries and ministries we support together.

CP Day 1995 will call all Southern Baptists to declare that this program of cooperation is self-evident of our responsibility, denominational unity, a manifestation of our vision for the future under the lordship of Christ, and we therefore recommit ourselves in prayer to that trust, sacrifice, and resolve necessary for the responsible expression of our life together in Christ through our Cooperative Program.

To celebrate CP Day, resource materials are available from SBC Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37234. Telephone (800) 458-2772.

Tomorrow's success in evangelizing all the lost requires that those of us who know and love the work of God accomplished through the Cooperative Program bridge the gap of the knowledge of and involvement in CP mission support for the next generation of church and denominational leaders. Together we can and must evangelize all the lost.

Austin is vice president, SBC Stewardship Commission.

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# Baptists in Broadcasting announce annual dinner, workshop

Churches involved in broadcasting are invited to attend the Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting Workshop, April 21-22 at Calvary Church in Jackson, according to Farrell Blankenship, director of Broadcast Services for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

An awards banquet will be held Friday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at Calvary Church.

Deborah Little Key, vice president of network operations for the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio and Television Commission (RTVC), will be the keynote speaker. Key is the second woman vice president in the 52-year history of the RTVC.

Awards will be presented in the areas of: best program in missions/evangelism, church musicals, and community service; best spot; and best first time entry.

The judges will also present one award for creative use of television or radio. A special audio/video feature of award-winning programs will be presented by the MBIB judging committee.

Workshops on Saturday, April 22 will feature recognized conference leaders and equipment displays from 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m. A continental breakfast will be served at 8 a.m. and equipment vendors will be available.

Workshops from 9:15-11:30 a.m. will feature "Producing a Worship Service — Basic," led by Doug Price, director of development at KCBT radio in Dallas. He has served as minister of media and executive pro-

ducer of "First Light with John Bisagno" at Houston's First Church for 11 years.

"Ideas and Solutions" will be led by Wayne Pierce, minister of media and manager of Cable 6 television station at First Church, Hattiesburg; and Merle Guyton, who has an extensive background in producing award-winning local video programming.

Returning this year will be "Producing Church Pageants and Special Events," led by Ken Anderson and Richard Lister. Anderson is owner of Anderson Productions in Jackson. Lister is owner of Master Sound, Inc., in Madison.

"Basic Audio in the Church" will be led by David Edmonds, vice president and co-owner of Sound and Communications, Inc., in Jackson. He has designed and installed hundreds of church sound and broadcast audio systems.

A new workshop this year will be "Media Promotion in Your Church and Community," led by Chip Turner, director of communications for the Louisiana Baptist Convention. He is author of *The Video Answerbook*.

Workshops from 1-3:15 p.m. are "Producing A Worship Service — Advanced," led by Doug Price; and "Basic Audio in the Church — Hands-On."

Cost of registration, which includes three meals and conference materials, is \$25 per person. For churches bringing four or more for Friday and Saturday, the

cost is \$20 per person. For those attending one day only, the cost is \$15 per person.

Advance registration must be made by April 12. Mail fees and information to: Farrell Blankenship, MBIB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Make check payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. For registration information, write Blankenship at the above address or phone (601) 968-3800. Outside Jackson, dial toll-free (800) 748-1651.

In an earlier promotion Ron Harris was listed as leading workshops on "Producing a Worship Service — Basic and Advanced,"



Edmonds



Anderson



Lister



Pierce



Key

but due to unavoidable changes, Doug Price will lead these conferences.

Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting planning committee members include: Kurt Brautigam and Wayne Pierce, Hattiesburg; Steve Guidry, George Van Horn, Ken



Price



Guyton



Turner

Sims, Richard Lister, and Judy Shelton, Jackson; Merle Guyton, Tupelo; and Bruce Cole, Bruce.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

## The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, April 6, 1995

Published Since 1877

### Chaney's HMB study: We're losing ground in the South

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptists are losing the metropolitan South.

That's one conclusion from a report by Charles Chaney, Home Mission Board vice president of extension, or church starting, who urged greater church planting efforts in Southern cities and suburbs.

"There is a massive unfinished task in the South, and it is getting more unfinished every year," wrote Chaney, who compared the number of Southern Baptist churches and their membership with the populations in 1970 and 1993, the latest available figures.

The study found the denomination grew faster than the population outside the South, but Southern Baptists lost strength in their own backyard. And, Chaney wrote, those gains made outside the South are still minimal.

According to the report, the U.S.

population grew 27% during the years studied, but the number of Southern Baptist churches increased only 13%.

In the South, the population grew 42% while SBC churches increased only 9%. "This represents a serious loss of market share," Chaney wrote. The Southern population to church ratio grew from 2,196 people for every SBC church to 2,876 people.

"We must not get to the place where we think we've got it made, because we are losing strength in the areas where we think we're strongest," Chaney told Baptist Press.

The South still holds the lion's share of both SBC constituted churches (80.4%) and resident members (85.5%). As a result, the gains made in new work areas often appear more dramatic.

Outside the South, population grew 20% and SBC churches

grew 32%. The ratio of population to Southern Baptist churches decreased 9.3%, but there are still 22,196 people for every Southern Baptist church — a ratio Chaney termed unacceptable. "The job is unfinished outside the South by whatever standard you want to say."

Reducing the ratio outside the South to one church for every 5,000 people (nearly double the Southern ratio) would require 26,000 more churches, he said. "We did not have 26,000 churches until 1945 — 100 years after the Southern Baptist Convention was organized." Southern Baptists currently average 1,119 church starts a year, he noted. Even if all those occurred outside the South, it would take 24 years to reach that ratio of one church per 5,000 people.

Southern states needed 9,632 more churches at the end of 1993 for the number of people for each SBC church to equal the 1970 level. "We have to get far more serious about evangelism and church planting."

One encouraging sign from Chaney's report is a 4% reduction in the nationwide ratio of SBC members to population — from one out of every 25 U.S. residents to one out of every 24. But in the South the ratio grew 10 percent.

Southern Baptists started 1,297 congregations last year, but Chaney wrote the convention's average 1,119 new congregations each year "provides no grounds for boasting.... The unfinished task is immense."



### Young Musicians meet at MC

Bobby Manley (top photo, from left), Steve Eaton, and C.L. Davidson, all from First Church, Booneville, enjoyed a moment of recess at the state Young Musicians Festival April 1 at Mississippi College. Barbara Bennett (above, from left), leader of young musicians at First Church, Greenville; Pam Meadows, choir leader for fifth graders at First Church, Clinton; and Rusty Miller, minister of music and youth at Ecru, compared notes at the festival. Sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the conference registered over 1,200 4th-6th graders.

### BSSB announces new quarterly release dates

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Baptist Sunday School Board will change its quarterly release dates for dated periodicals in June 1997 to better meet the needs of the growing number of churches with organizational promotion dates at the beginning of June or the beginning of September.

Originally planned for September 1995, the change was postponed by the BSSB due to produc-

tion and distribution problems.

"Making the transition in 1997 will give us time to complete improvements we are making in literature production, ordering processes, and distribution systems," said BSSB President James T. Draper Jr. "By 1997 we are confident that our processes will be adjusted to the faster pace needed to make our materials more timely and relevant."





John Sharp (top photo, right) confers with his two sons Jonathan, 18, (left) and Justin, 14, (center) prior to the Spanish-language worship service at the Scott County Baptist associational office. Jonathan (above photo, back left) and Wade Fisher, 19, (back right) pose with their Sunday School class members.

## Mississippi vols help needy former pastors

"This need is going to be with us for a long time," said Levon Moore of Kosciusko.

His comments came in the wake of the successful launch of a pilot project in Mississippi to help needy, retired Baptist ministers and their widows. The Retired Ministers Support Corps recently helped to increase the amount of current gifts to the Adopt an Annuitant Program by 21%, but as regional volunteer captain Jack Colvin reminded team members, there is much more to be done.

"I feel that we are on the right track," said Colvin, of Jackson. "Our calling is to help those saints who have worked hard and long in his vineyard."

Nearly 10,000 retired Baptist ministers or their widows receive less than \$200 per month in retirement income from the Annuity Board. Adopt an Annuitant provides an additional \$50 monthly supplement to 1,548 annuitants.

Many Baptists are unaware that when their pastor retires, he no longer receives support unless some church made arrangements to start a retirement account with the Annuity Board. Many pastors labored in smaller, rural churches that believed they were unable to contribute anything to his retirement. When his service for a Baptist church ended, so did his income. Adding to the desperate situation, some may have opted out of Social Security, eliminating even that meager retirement income.

To address this need, the Retired Minister's Support Corps was formed to tell Mississippi Baptists of the plight of their for-

mer ministers. Members of the group include Moore, James Breland, James Cook, J.T. Hannaford, Odis Henderson, John Henry, Earl Kelly, Marjorie Kelly, George Lee, Eugene Roberts, and James Yates. Using the motto, "Sound the Call," they set a goal of increasing giving in Mississippi by 15%. They exceeded that goal handily, but feel that there is much more to be done.

Now, the movement is spreading, and the Annuity Board volunteers plan to "Sound the Call" across the nation, raising money to help others who are struggling.

"Most people just don't know that the need is there," said Moore.

To enlist in the Retired Minister's Support Corps, contact the Annuity Board Endowment Department at P.O. Box 2190, Dallas, TX 75221-2190. Telephone: (800) 262-0511.

## Sebastopol Church, Scott Countians share vision in Hispanic ministry

Wade Fisher had little idea of what God had in store for him during a 1992 mission trip to Bolivia. Then 15, he had faithfully studied Spanish and managed to interpret for several of his fellow Scott Countians on the mission team. He returned home determined to do more.

Hispanic workers from nine Latin American countries, including Cuba were (and still are) moving into the Sebastopol area, as well as other towns in Scott County. Most work in the chicken processing plants in the area. David Sartin, pastor of the Sebastopol Church, and his congregation had a desire to reach the Hispanic workers with the gospel.

Fisher was the key.

A young Guatemalan, Reynaldo, came to Sebastopol hungry for the gospel. Reynaldo accepted Christ and soon had an outreach ministry going.

Students Gary Hodges, Justin Sharp, and Jonathan Sharp (sons of John Sharp, Scott Association director of missions) began to help. All studied Spanish and were soon able to teach and interpret for others. Justin also plays the piano for services.

Since January 1993 more than 150 Hispanics have attended the church. Some have returned to Central America. Presently, 35

adults attend the services at the Scott County Baptist Center.

Jack and Jean Glaze, retired missionaries to Argentina, now help with the preaching and teaching in Sunday School.

The Sebastopol Church has a Hispanic committee and hopes to start a Hispanic church in Scott County with Sebastopol as the mother church. The church and association have the Hispanic mission in their budgets.

Last August, the church sponsored a Spanish-language revival. Four Hispanics were baptized as a result. During the revival, 37 members of the Sebastopol Church volunteered to work in the Hispanic ministry.

They started a clothing closet to help meet needs. Sebastopol Church youths are assisting Hispanic children with their homework — especially math and English. They seek to assist them in finding housing and with shopping. Several have been taken to a doctor when ill; transportation has been provided to other activities as well.

A conversational Spanish class has 25 enrolled. The class has spurred a desire on the part of many members to learn Spanish, and a teacher comes each week from Mississippi State University to lead the conversational Spanish class. Other churches in the association donated gifts during the



Jack Glaze (left), retired missionary to Argentina, preaches at the Spanish-language church sponsored by Sebastopol Church. David Sartin (right) is Sebastopol Church pastor.

Christmas season.

Some of the Hispanic workers have returned to their home countries taking a Bible in hand and Christ in their hearts. They have all shared in the blessings bestowed upon a church which saw the need and seeks to meet it.

Dedicated young people have been willing to forego other activities in order to provide transportation and friendship to the "strangers within the gate." A floodtide of goodwill has opened the door for the grace of God — Sebastopol, Scott County, and the Hispanic congregation can testify to that.

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# HOUSE TOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

April 6, 1995

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**BROTHERHOOD DEPARTMENT**  
**PAUL HARRELL**, Director  
"Helping to Bring Mississippi and the World to Jesus"

## Preschool: Beginning the JOURNEY

April 28-29, 1995  
Temple Baptist  
Church, Hattiesburg



September 22-23, 1995  
First Baptist Church, Oxford

### Friday Night 7:00-8:30 p.m.

*Teaching Christian Values in a Secular World*

*A parenting class open to all parents of preschoolers*

*Led by Kathy Burns, Mission*

*Friends Specialist, WMU, SBC*

7:00-8:00 General Session

8:00-8:10 Stand-up Break

8:10-until Question &  
Answer Time

### Saturday 9:30-Noon

*Charting Your Spiritual Path*

*For all preschool leaders*

*Led by Kathy Burns*

9:30-10:45 General Session

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-Noon Choosing Your  
Direction—

Leaders will be able to choose one of four leadership conferences to attend: Mission Friends, Sunday School, Discipleship Training, or Music

If you would like more information about the Beginning the JOURNEY conference, contact the WMU office of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651.



Pray this day

April 16-May 6

Easter - that time of hope and new beginnings and affirmation of the truth of Christ's mission accomplished...let's pray this day.

Prayer Ministry Office  
P.O. Box 530  
Jackson, MS 39205-0530  
Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904  
Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-PRAY

for everyone who preaches the gospel on this Easter day and for everyone who listens to the gospel  <b>16</b>	MK birthday: Jacob Wallace 4-18-80 Apartado Aereo 51687 Bogota, Colombia Parents: Karl and Peggy Mission Administration  MK birthday: Regina Jones 4-17-77 875 Adams Drive Greenville, MS 38703-6060 Parents: Eddie and Barbara Pastor <b>17</b>	for follow-up after special evangelistic efforts on the Mosquito Coast in Honduras  <b>18</b>	MK birthday: Bethany Pevey 4-19-80 P.O. Box 9414 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Parents: Frank and Jerry Anne Mission Administration <b>19</b>	for Baptist leaders on every level of our denomination  <b>20</b>	MK birthday: Joel Collins 4-21-82 c/o ACS Suriname P.O. Box 02-5567 Miami, FL 33102-5567 Parents: Charles and Susanne General Evangelism  MK birthday: Benjamin Stacy 4-21-81 c/o Central Baptist Church Zelma St., II-B 290005 L'vov Ukraine Parents: Roger and Penelope Church Starting <b>21</b>	for churches still trying to reach their Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal  <b>22</b>
for home missionaries as they look forward to the work they will be able to do with their allocations from the Annie Armstrong Offering <b>23</b>	MK birthday: Justin Martin 4-24-83 Casilla de Correo 5 8400 San Carlos de Bariloche Argentina Parents: Asbury and Hope General Evangelism <b>24</b>	for more and more families and communities being touched by AIDS <b>25</b>	for your church's response to those with AIDS <b>26</b>	for medical research being done on AIDS <b>27</b>	for children with HIV infections <b>28</b>	for AIDS ministries in your community <b>29</b>
for home missionaries involved in AIDS ministries <b>30</b>	for foreign missionaries involved in AIDS ministries <b>1</b>	for your personal response should God need you to minister in the area of AIDS <b>2</b>	for church staff members should God need them to minister in the area of AIDS <b>3</b>	MK birthday: Miss Terri Lee 4-4-77 53-31 Matsumidai Ikoma-shi 630-02 Japan Parents: Harry and Linda General Evangelism <b>4</b>	for BSU summer missionaries <b>5</b>	for the people the BSU summer missionaries will be helping <b>6</b>

# Lad/Crusader Day 1995

## Central Hills Baptist Retreat

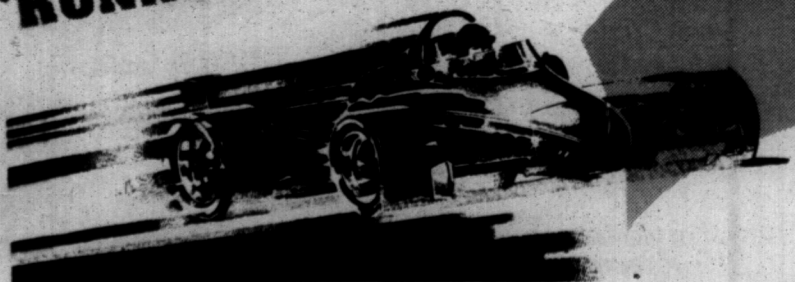
April 22, 1995  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Register Early! DEADLINE APRIL 15  
MAXIMUM ATTENDANCE: 500

Cost : \$2.50

Bring a sack lunch  
(No meal will be provided)

**"RUNNING" THE GOOD RACE!**



If you would like more information about Lad/Crusader Day, contact the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651.

R.A. Racers

Mission Project

Chapter Banner Competition

Speakout

Snow & Tell Staff Competition

**Missionary speakers:**

Lloyd Lunceford-  
former missionary to Taiwan

Eddie Graves-  
missionary to Chile

## Lad/Crusader Day REGISTRATION FORM

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Association \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader's Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader's Phone No. (During the Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee Enclosed: \$2.50 x \_\_\_\_\_ (total number attending) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Registration fee includes limited supplemental insurance, drinks, and facility costs)

**Make checks payable to:**  
**Mississippi Baptist Convention Board**

**MAIL TO: CRUSADER DAY,  
Brotherhood Department,  
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530**

HOUSE TOPS



## A National Sunday School Director Seminar Will...

- equip you as a Sunday School director to serve effectively in all phases of Sunday School work.
- give you practical "how to" application in all aspects of your job.
- provide you an opportunity to learn from a team of experienced Sunday School practitioners and consultants.

Teams of pastor, Sunday School directors, and church staff attending the seminar together can begin to build cohesive plans.

**April 27-28, 1995**

**Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Madison**

### The Seminar Includes...

#### Friday Morning

(beginning at 9:30)

- Seminar Registration
- Welcome, Mission of the Sunday School
- The Sunday School Director's Role
- Building Your Sunday School Team
- Guidelines for Growing Your Sunday School
- Lunch

**A unique opportunity  
to make a genuine  
difference in your  
Sunday School**

#### Friday Afternoon

- Administering a Strong Outreach-Evangelism Program
- 3 Selective Conference Periods  
(choose from over 30 "how-to" conferences)

#### Friday Evening

- Banquet - outstanding speaker and music

#### Saturday Morning

(beginning at 7:30)

- Continental Breakfast
- Leading Your Sunday School to Teach the Bible Effectively
- 2 Selective Conference Periods (choose from over 20 "how-to" conferences)
- Planning the Work of Your Sunday School

### Registration is Easy!

Complete the registration form and mail with payment to: **National Sunday School Director Seminars, P.O. Box 24001, Nashville, TN 37203**

#### Registration

☐ Yes, I want to attend the National Sunday School Director Seminar in Mississippi

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Additional Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuition: \$59 per person - Make check payable to: **Baptist Sunday School Board**

On receipt of your registration form additional information regarding meeting site and available hotels will be sent to you.

If you have questions or need further information, please call 615-251-2477.

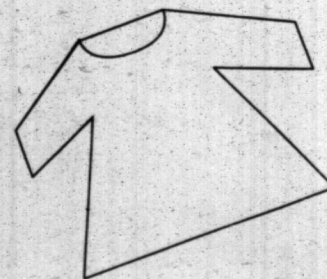
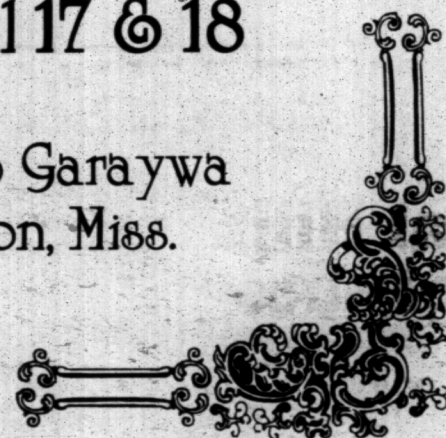


## for Success

Mississippi Baptist  
Secretaries  
Conference

**April 17 & 18**

Camp Garaywa  
Clinton, Miss.



Registration begins at  
Camp Garaywa at  
10:00 a.m.,  
Monday, April 17

If you would like more information about the Secretaries Conference, contact the Church Administration Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651



# 1995



1995  
QUARTET/ENSEMBLE

## Registration

1995  
QUARTET/ENSEMBLE

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Minister of Music/Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Category (up to 500 membership)
- ☐ Category (500-1000 membership)
- ☐ Category (over 1000 membership)

Quartet Name \_\_\_\_\_

Selection Titles: (Total time allowed is six minutes)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher \_\_\_\_\_

Ensemble Name \_\_\_\_\_

Selection Titles: (Total time allowed is six minutes)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \_\_\_\_\_ Publisher \_\_\_\_\_

We will participate in the following festivals:

- ☐ North Oxford Baptist Church, Oxford May 2, 1995
- ☐ First Baptist Church, Higgins May 2, 1995
- ☐ First Baptist Church, Arkville May 9, 1995
- ☐ First Baptist Church, London May 9, 1995

For more information about these festivals, contact the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651.

## Festivals

Please return this form and \$10 per group (quartet or ensemble) to the CHURCH MUSIC DEPARTMENT, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS, *no later than April 18, 1995.*

Make check payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Gulfshore Baptist Assembly  
Guest Conductor-  
Don Odom

### YOUNG MUSICIANS' CAMP

**Gulfshore Baptist Assembly**  
June 23-27

**Blue Mountain College**  
July 24-28

Registrations must be received by  
**June 1, 1995**

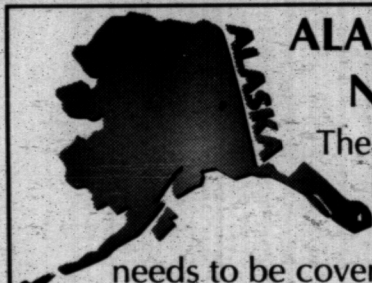
*A music camp for children who have  
completed grades 4, 5, and 6.*



Blue Mountain College  
Guest Conductor-  
John Langworthy

Young Musician camps are very special and enjoyable camps for children. They include choral rehearsals to prepare for a concert on the last evening, worship services each day, music classes, and free time activities. The theme this year is "A Celebration of Praise", celebrating 50 years of organized church music in Mississippi.

For more information, call the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 968-3800 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651.



### ALASKA CHURCH NEEDS HELP!

The oldest Southern Baptist congregation in Alaska has several needs to be covered by volunteer response. They are as follows:

1. Work team to construct an elevator shaft so that an elevator can be installed.
2. Roof repair.
3. Paint the interior of the auditorium.
4. Replace carpeting in an area.

The needs are in the First Southern Baptist Church of Anchorage. Teams may choose to do all or part of these projects depending upon available persons and skills.

Please contact the Partnership Office at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 or call 1-800-748-1651.

# HOUSE TOPS



**Rolling Creek Church, Quitman,** will present its Easter musical/drama "The Victor" on April 7-9 at 7 p.m. each night. For more information, contact Randy Boone at (601) 659-3278 or Christine Gunter at (601) 693-1970.

**West Jackson Church, Jackson,** will have its last service on April 9. The service will begin at 10:45 a.m. (there will be no Sunday School). A covered dish dinner will follow.

**Colonial Heights Church, Jackson,** will present VICTORY, Celebrating the Key to Victorious Living!, April 9-12, with Michael Holt and Johnny Hunt. Holt joined the new Youth Ministries Department at Columbia International University in 1990 to encourage and equip students in youth ministry, which he describes as "the highest calling." Hunt is pastor of First Church, Woodstock, Ga. Service times are 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, with Holt; and Mon.-Wed. at 6:30 p.m. with Hunt and the High School Good News Youth Choir and Orchestra of First Church, Jacksonville, Fla. For more information, call (601) 956-5000.

**First Church, Yazoo City,** will present Greg Buchanan, harpist, on April 9 at 6 p.m. On Sunday, April 16, an Easter sunrise service will begin 7 a.m. at the Yazoo County fairgrounds. Sunday School fol-

lows at 9:40 a.m. at the church. The final worship service of the day will be held at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. David Raddin is pastor.

**John Armistead,** religion editor for the **Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal,** will sign his novel, **A Legacy of Vengeance,** 2-4 p.m. April 9 at Mississippi College's Leland Speed Library, Clinton. The Meridian native is a former pastor and graduate of MC and New Orleans Seminary. For more information, call David Wright at (601) 925-3438.

**Visions, a ladies' ensemble** from Mississippi College, will present a concert at Hillcrest Church, Jackson, at 6 p.m. April 9.

## Names in the News

**William Parrish,** professor of history at Mississippi State University and president-elect of the Mississippi Historical Society, will deliver the 1995 Akin Lecture at Mississippi College, 7 p.m., April 11, in the Hall of Fame Room, B.C. Rogers Student Center. Parrish will speak on "The Confederate Governors Revisited."

**Tony Gore and Majesty of Thorsby, Ala.,** will sing at **Kolola Springs Church, Caledonia,** April 12 at 7 p.m. Gore was formerly with the Wilburns. Don Harding is pastor.

**The Telestials** from Nashville will be in concert April 8, 7 p.m., at New Prospect Church, Sebastopol. Reggie Williams is pastor.

**Magee's Creek, Jayess:** April 7-9; services, Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m., and 10 a.m. Sunday; Mike Gilchrist, evangelist; Linda Holmes, Magee's Creek, music; Max Parris, pastor.

**Fellowship, Mathiston:** April 9-12; 7 nightly; Al Gaspard, Houston, evangelist; Tabatha Pollard, Mathiston, music; Ralph Cain, pastor.

**Liberty, Noxapater:** April 7-9; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Keith Powell, Louisville, evangelist; Betty Charlton, Louisville, music; Bobby Parish, pastor.

**First, Yazoo City:** April 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. and Tues., noon and 7 p.m.; Wed., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; David Michel, director, MBCB Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion, evangelist; R. David Raddin, pastor.

**Victory, Mathiston:** April 9-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Tues., 7 p.m.; Danny Smith, pastor, evangelist; Evelyn Clay, Mathiston, music.

**Lucien (Franklin):** April 7-9; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., lunch, and 1:30 p.m. service; Steve Purvis, Natchez, evangelist; Patricia Case, Lucien Church, music; Rusty Bowlin, pastor.

**Parkway, Kosciusko:** April 9-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Marvin Howard, Smithdale, evangelist; Jackson Cox, Milledgeville, Ga., music; Joseph B. Knight, pastor.

**Raymond (Metro):** April 9-12; Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon and 7 p.m.; Stephen Davis, Russellville, Ark., evangelist; Billy Causey, Raymond, music; Tommy A. Jarrett, pastor.

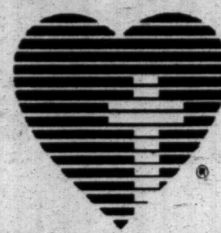
**Van Winkle Church Furnishings & Pew Upholstery**  
Pews, pulpits, baptistries, stained glass, carpet, steeples, lighting, folding doors, theater seats.  
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# Revival Dates



## Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now.

Participate in 90 days of simultaneous Harvest Revivals.

**Macedonia, Louisville:** April 7-9; Sunday, 11 a.m.; 7 nightly; Noel Dear, evangelist; Richey Lovern, music; Arnold Davis Sr., pastor.

**Harmony, New Albany:** April 9-12; Sunday, 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Don Baggett, Belden Church, evangelist; Danny Rowland, Wallerville Church, music; Robert L. Daniel, pastor.

**Pleasant Ridge, Dumas:** April 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Chuck Hampton, Florence, evangelist; Mark Garrett, New Albany, music; David Blackwell, pastor.

**Poplar Flat, Louisville:** April 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gary Jackson, Sturgis, evangelist; Leon Merritt, Poplar Flat, music; Dwayne Kelly, pastor.

**First, Beaumont:** April 9-14; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; James Messer, evangelist; Wilton Bennett, Sandhill, music; Julius Harbison, pastor.

**Vaiden (Carroll):** April 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and evening services, 7 p.m.; Keith Cook, Springfield, Tenn., evangelist; Guy and Linda Lewis, Black Hawk, music; Leon Holly, pastor.

**Forest Hill, Jackson:** April 9-12; services, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, and 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; covered dish luncheon, noon, Sunday and Wednesday; Rocky Henriques, evangelist.

**Concord, Ackerman:** April 9-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Tues., 7 p.m.; Roger Griffith, pastor, evangelist; Lamar Blain, Ackerman, music.

**Arrowood, Meridian:** April 9-12; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Buddy Petty, Enterprise, evangelist; Weston Burnside, Meridian, music; Kevin Griffin, pastor.

**First, Terry:** April 7-9; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Michael Johnson, Clinton, evangelist; Rick Patrick, Jackson, music; Gowan Ellis, pastor.

## Camp Garaywa to select staffers for summer 1995

Summer staffers in two categories are being recruited to serve at Camp Garaywa, the state Baptist campground in Clinton owned and operated by the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU).

Term of service for college-age summer staffers is May 30-July 30, beginning on Sunday evening each week and running through the following Friday, with occasional weekend opportunities.

Applicants must be female; have completed their freshman year in college; be an active member of a Southern Baptist church; have a missions heart; enjoy chal-

lenges and children; and want to make a difference.

Acteens counselors-in-training are also needed at Camp Garaywa to serve one-week terms beginning June 5 and running through July 30.

Applicants must be at least age 16 by the week of service; be an active member of Acteens and a Southern Baptist church; have a missions heart; enjoy challenges and children; and want to make a difference.

For more information, contact Helen Price, Mississippi WMU Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone (601) 968-3800, or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

## GOSPEL MUSIC CONCERT

Featuring **Jasper Butler**  
and other local singers  
**Pinelake Baptist Church**  
2070 Spillway Rd. • Brandon, MS  
**April 8, 1995 • 7 p.m.**  
Free Admission  
Love offering for Ukraine Mission  
(601) 992-2630

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**CHOIR ROBES & accessories,** pulpit/judicial robes, paraments. **MURPHY ROBES/Mac's Robes,** Charles McGlocklin, Authorized Dealer. Statewide 1-800-898-MACS.

**BAPTISTRY/BATHTUB REPAIR.** Porcelain or fiberglass. No job too large or small. Statewide service. No mileage charge. K&K Bathtub Repair, 118 S. McCrary Rd., Columbus, MS 39702; 1-800-349-2882.

**SEE THE GREAT** Passion Play in Eureka Springs, Ark. \$31 Pkg for Groups now includes the Best (\$13) Tickets, plus lodging & meals! Where One Call Does It ALL: Keller's Country Dorm Resort (501) 253-8418.

**SEEKING A USED** Church bus or van, 15-passenger, 1988 model and up, in good condition under \$10,000. Contact Friendship East Baptist Church,

Charleston, Miss. (601) 647-5917, (601) 647-8714, or (601) 647-2177.

**LIGHT SHOW FOR RENT** or sale. Great for Easter/Christmas programs. Call Scott Stanton (601) 981-2491.

**NEED A FUNDRAISER?** We offer Buy-One, Get-One coupon books, M&M products, and wrapping paper. Call Fund Raisers of Mississippi, (601) 366-8748.

**BIBLE COLLEGE DEGREE** through correspondence \$4 credit hour. Fundamental, conservative. Free catalog: Faith Christian Bible College, 1-800-539-3603.

**SEEKING A DIRECTOR** of Youth. Must be a young Christian with Biblical knowledge. Send current or updated resume to Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Rt. 3, Box 257-B, Eupora, MS 39744, phone (601) 258-3920.



## Uniform

### Growing through worship



By Greg Potts  
1 Corinthians 14

"You could feel the Spirit's presence today." That statement is often heard as people leave a place of worship on Sunday morning or evening. They are attempting to express how they felt in worship. Evidently the music was inspiring or the message was encouraging or the fellowship was warm and loving. However, worship is not limited to feelings.

This is what Paul talked about in our text. In the preceding verses (1-19), he engaged in a lengthy discussion on tongues. Some in the Corinthian church were disrupting worship and confusing many of the newer Christians with their speaking in tongues. Those who were doing so felt this was a mark of spiritual maturity. However, Paul said it was a mark of immaturity (v. 20).

The issues of tongues and proper expression in worship persist today. Some churches feel they are more Spirit-led than others because they permit, and even encourage, freedom of expression in worship. Other churches that are more traditional tend to look with suspicion upon those who worship in such a manner, fearing they are more charismatic.

This labeling is unfortunate because worship was not intended to be a divisive issue among Christians. In our text, Paul listed some instruction to assist us in growing in worship. First...

**We must understand the meaning of worship (vv. 22-23).** Paul began by dealing with the purpose of tongues in the church.

Paul said the purpose of tongues was for unbelievers. He added that if the entire congregation was speaking in tongues and unbelievers entered the place of worship, they would be confused and would receive nothing from worship. However, if the whole congregation were sharing the gospel in a manner these unbelievers could understand, they would possibly be saved.

Worship is a time when everyone is to focus on praising the name of Jesus for the love he has displayed to mankind through his death on the cross.

**We must understand the power of worship (vv. 24-25).** Paul said that if the congregation had devoted its energies to proclaiming the message of salvation in a manner that all can understand, the convicting power of the Holy Spirit would work to lead someone to faith in Jesus Christ. We need to be reminded that if the music is not outstanding or the preaching is not the best ever heard, God's Holy Spirit is still working.

**We must understand the purpose of worship (vv. 26-28).** Paul said the purpose of worship for the Christian is to be encouraged and built up in the faith (v. 26b). Edification for the entire congregation is not possible if one stands to speak in tongues and no one can understand what is being said. All that happens is the one speaking in tongues is lifted up as a super saint. That is not the purpose of worship.

Every musician needs to understand that when they sing in worship, their purpose is not to receive praise for themselves but to lead others in worship. Every preacher needs to understand that when they preach in worship, their purpose is not to receive praise for a superior message but to lead others to see Christ. The purpose of worship is to build up the church not individuals.

**Understand the peace of worship (vv. 29-33).** Paul said that God is not a God of confusion but of peace (v. 33). When one leaves a service of worship, he should know he has experienced the risen Lord. This does not mean that every time one leaves worship he will feel good about himself. There are times when the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin and we may leave disturbed about our eternal destiny or about some specific sin in our lives. But Paul wrote to the Corinthian church and reminded them that instead of leaving worship confused about different spiritual gifts, they should leave having met the risen Lord.

Paul listed the different spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12-14. The gift of tongues is near the bottom of the list and preaching is near the top. This indicates one should not allow confusion about this gift to hinder worship.

Potts is pastor, First Church, Vancleave.

## Bible Book

### Jesus' early ministry



By Sylvia Fleming  
Mark 1

As foretold by the prophet, "I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way before me..." (Mal. 3:1). Malachi was the last prophet to speak for 400 years, and in his prophecy, he spoke of the next one — John the Baptist. Thus, John would be the man to bring the next word from God 400 years later. Malachi spoke of John the Baptist, who would be sent to prepare the way of the Lord by encouraging repentance through righteousness of the Law. John was sent to announce the arrival of the King who would present the Word and complete the Law, and by doing so would provide righteousness of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. By lifting up Jesus and not himself, John prepared the way. He could only baptize in water; however, Jesus would provide for one to be baptized with the Spirit.

Not only did Jesus formally enter his ministry by way of baptism, but he also gave validity to John's ministry by asking John to baptize him. Jesus' own baptism symbolized the work that he came to accomplish for man — the death, burial, and resurrection — the completion of the redemptive work for man. He publicly identified himself with the ones for whom he was willing to suffer death, the ultimate wage of sin, though he knew no sin.

At that momentous event, the trinity of God was present. The Son was in the River Jordan being baptized. The heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended as though a dove. Lastly, the very immutable holy Father spoke in great essence and holy acclamation: "Thou art my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). That voice was the very one that had been silent for 400 years.

Then, immediately the Holy Spirit took Jesus into the wilderness to meet his archenemy Satan, who would then tempt Jesus Christ. In Jesus' triumph over Satan it was demonstrated that he was qualified for the offices which he had come to fill. Jesus first was tested as the representative of man, then, as the representative of God, and finally as the Messiah.

As God the Son shed his glory in heaven to come to earth, to save all mankind, he as man's representative was tempted with man's most basic need — hunger. Hunger as man's most primal need is truly demonstrated even in newborn babes as they come into the world with a desire to satisfy that need. Of that, Satan was aware; thus, he chose hunger as a means by which to tempt Jesus. When that temptation did not work, it showed Jesus was qualified to fulfill the office of priest, man's representative to God.

Satan then approached Jesus as the representative of God. He tried to destroy the Godship of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, and his relationship with the Father. Again, that temptation did not work. With the failure of that temptation, it was for all to see that Jesus could readily fulfill the office of prophet — God's representative to man.

Finally, Satan brought up the fact that he controlled all of the worldly kingdoms. If Christ as the Messiah would rely upon Satan, then Satan would surrender all his holdings that Adam had lost to him. By following Satan's plan, the Messiah would regain the world and not have to go to the cross. However, that temptation also failed. In that failure Christ also proved to all eternity that he was the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Had Satan been able to accomplish any one of the three temptations, had he been able to destroy Jesus' worthiness to fulfill any one of the three offices — prophet, priest, or king — the entire Bible would have been a lie. All words from the prophets would have been null and void.

Because Jesus is the God-man and because he has withstood temptation himself, he can understand any and every temptation that Satan puts before man. He is the God-man, the Messiah who can truly say, "There... is no temptation... but... as is common to man; but God is faithful... [and] will not permit you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will... make the way to escape, that you may be able to bear it" (1 Cor. 10:13).

Fleming is an English teacher and member of Harmony Church, Louisville.

## Life and Work

### Response to God's Son



By Michael Johnson  
Mark 15

On this Palm Sunday we examine the familiar details of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion. This one event has no doubt been studied and analyzed more than any other episode in human history. It was through the crucifixion that the ultimate sacrifice was offered for sin. Because of the cross there can be no doubt of God's love and concern for his creation.

People throughout the centuries have given a variety of responses to the cross: love, awe, ridicule, disbelief, surprise, relief, uncertainty, etc. — just the kind of responses we find in Mark 15. This week we will examine six of them.

**Chief Priests.** The chief priests not only did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah, but they went to great efforts to disprove this fact. As chapter 14 shows, if anyone was ever "railroaded" in the justice system it was Jesus. He was arrested at night without any explanation. Immediately, Jesus was taken to trial with no legal counsel. Paid false witnesses were brought in to speak against him and Jesus was not allowed to put on a defense.

The irony of the statements in verses 31-32 are twofold. First, if Christ had come down off the cross these religious leaders would no doubt still refuse to believe. Time after time the Lord had demonstrated his power and authority to these men to no avail. Second, the very reason Christ could not come down from the cross was so that he could save others, which included these men.

**Pilate.** Pilate truly believed that Jesus was innocent but did not have the backbone to stand up for that belief. In fact, when he announced Jesus' innocence he was blackmailed by the chief priests to reconsider his decision. Pilate wilfully did what was wrong because he did not have the courage to do what he knew to be right. Pilate compounded his failure as he abdicated his authority, turning the decision-making process over to the mob.

**Crowd.** We see the chief priests' handiwork in the crowd's responses as they "stirred up" the people (v. 11). Mass hysteria took over the group as they clamored for the release of Barabbas. No doubt there were some there who were not clear about the specifics of the event. Nevertheless public opinion won the day, which again illustrates that the majority is not always right.

**Soldiers.** The soldiers had been witnesses to the way Jesus had been treated. It was clear to them that he was a non-person; no one cared about him. They realized that they now had carte blanche over this individual who was condemned to die. The soldiers took full advantage of this opportunity. They ridiculed Jesus, had sport with him, and ultimately gambled for the last shred of dignity he had left — his clothes.

**Women.** Here among those who had mocked Jesus in his last hours, we find some reverent and believing souls. What a debt we owe to the women. These faithful followers, who had often ministered to Jesus' needs during his Galilean tour, were now present at the crucifixion as silent witnesses to this heart-breaking scene. Throughout Christian (especially Baptist) history women have played a significant part in the service of Christ. Without their faithfulness, their generosity, and their willingness to serve, the progress of the gospel throughout the world would have been greatly impeded.

**Centurion.** Mark concludes this narrative with a great confession coming from no less a Roman, a Gentile, a non-Jew! No doubt this professional soldier had seen it all in his career. Yet there was something different about the demeanor of this particular prisoner. Through Jesus' conduct he had borne witness to his own righteousness. Just as Peter, a Jew, uttered his confession, "You are the Christ" (8:29); now a pagan attested that his victim was the Son of God. Truly, Christ had come into the world for all people.

**Your response.** How do we respond to the death of Christ? Do we work hard to ignore the facts like the chief priests? Perhaps like Pilate, we believe but do not have the fortitude to stand up for that belief. Maybe we follow the will of the majority, or are vocal in our ridicule of the Christ. We can always join the women who reverently witness the event from afar, or stand with the soldier and humbly confess. Christ has completed his work; ours is just beginning.

Johnson is associate professor of Christian education at Mississippi College, Clinton.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW



## The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27,  
Clinton, MS 39060-0027  
(601) 922-2242

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## Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

DEC. 1, 1994 -  
DEC. 31, 1994

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(to be continued)

## The Baptist Children's Village

P.O. BOX 27  
CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI 39060-0027

April 6, 1995

Dear Village Friend

The assurance and hope of our Christian faith is totally founded in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." Our God cannot lie, and so you and I have the assurance of life in Him. That makes the Christian faith so wonderful! The victory is ours.

As we approach this Easter season so many of your children at The Village feel as if they do not have any hope or assurance. They feel deserted by family and friends and so many of them feel that they have nothing that is certain in their future.

You can give your children the hope and assurance they need at this Easter season. Not only can you help them with clothing needs, but your love and support will assure them of a brighter tomorrow.

Will you join me in giving your children hope and assurance. Through your generous gift you can share the reality of His resurrection with your children.

Thank you for helping to give the promise of a brighter day to this large family.

I am humbly,

*Ronny E. Robinson*

RONNY E. ROBINSON  
Executive Director

The Baptist Children's Village  
will host

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday, April 16, 1995

7:00 a.m.

Chapel Lawn (Bring your own chair)

805 Flag Chapel Road

Continental Breakfast Served at 6:45 a.m.



# capsules

**NO PROGRESS IN ZAMBIA ON BAPTIST WORK PERMITS:** LUSAKA, Zambia (BP) — A critical meeting over work permits for missionaries in Zambia produced little progress toward solving the impasse, with the missionaries subsequently deciding to resume court action. Two new things did surface at the March 24 meeting, revealing basic differences between missionaries and the convention over the philosophy of mission financing and the nature of church autonomy. Besides control over work permits, the convention wants control of the budget and program of the Baptist Mission of Zambia and the authority to tell churches what to do. That fits more in the pattern of a hierarchical form of church government than the Baptist congregational approach. A Zambia judge, reminding the parties that he should not be involved in a church matter, ordered the mission and the Baptist Convention of Zambia to meet March 24 at the same time he ordered the chief immigration officer to grant the extensions. The sides asked the head of the Zambia Bible Society to moderate. After the joint meeting, the mission met for two hours on the night of March 24 and another four hours March 25. "We didn't start out in total agreement as a mission, but we just kept talking and praying and talking and praying and you could feel the Holy Spirit working," Wilson said. "In the end we felt we had to file the contempt charge to keep the four couples from having to leave the country before the issue is settled."

**BLASPHEMY CHARGES DISMISSED AGAINST PAKISTANI CHRISTIANS:** LAHORE, Pakistan — Two judges dismissed blasphemy charges Feb. 23 against Pakistani Christians Rehmat Masih and his 14-year-old nephew, Salamat Masih. The pair had been sentenced to death by hanging for allegedly blaspheming Islam's Prophet Muhammad. Christians around the world had prayed and took part in protests of the sentence. After the judges ruled there was no evidence against the pair, Muslim militants in Pakistan flooded streets outside the courthouse, vowing to kill the defendants, lawyers, and judges in the case. Police in riot gear armed with automatic weapons encircled the courthouse and took up positions on rooftops to protect those inside.



## LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ed.D.  
Minister of Counseling  
First Church, Jackson

*I'm surrounded by strong "Type A" personalities. I'm frustrated because they don't listen to me. What can I do?*

Type A personalities are determined, take-charge people. They are not known for their listening abilities. They are always busy; they like to do two or three things at a time. As a counselor and Type A personality myself, I have been trained to listen during counseling sessions but in my personal life I have difficulty practicing what I preach. I have learned, however, that this is something I can overcome if I take responsibility for it. From your perspective, however, here are some helpful hints:

— Ask, "Is this a good time to talk? If not, when could I have (amount of time) to talk with you?"

— Have in mind what you want to say. Write down your points, if necessary. This may seem peculiar in a family setting, but remember you are trying to break the bad listening habits of the Type A person.

— Affirm the Type A person when he/she actually listens to you. This appeals to them because they like being needed. That's one reason they stay so busy.

— Hang in there. It helps to

understand that personalities types are not wrong; just different.

*Our adult children show little interest in church, even though they seemed to enjoy church activities in their growing-up years. We pray for them; what else can we do?*

You are doing about all you can do at this point. Take heart that there is a trend in our culture today to return to the values and morals on which we were raised, and one of the strongest times that young adults return to church is with the birth of their first child. I don't know the ages of your children or if they have children, but I do know that parenthood suddenly brings an increased sense of responsibility and a desire for eternal things. Encourage your church to maintain a strong ministry to these new parents. If your adult children live in your town, ask Sunday School leaders and outreach workers to stay in contact with them. If they live in another town, search out the active churches there and express your concerns to church leaders. We must give our children wings and allow them to fly. If you do that, you may find they will come back to the ideals you (and they) cherish so much.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: In time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

# April 9 marks 50th anniversary of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's death

"On a cold April day in 1977, I stood in the little stone chapel at Flossenbug concentration camp in Germany and grieved for Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian and resistance figure. That same day in 1945, on orders from Adolf Hitler, he had been led out by his Nazi captors to hang naked between earth and sky until he was dead."

Mary Glazener, speaker and author of *The Cup of Wrath: A Novel Based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Resistance to Hitler*, remembers Bonhoeffer, the young Christian and political activist who was hanged by the Nazis on April 9, 1945, two weeks before Hitler's suicide and the German army's surrender.

Although Bonhoeffer died as a result of his political activities against the German government rather than his dedication to the Christian faith, he is still considered a modern martyr.

As a man of great faith and conviction, Bonhoeffer struggled to be faithful to God during Hitler's oppressive regime. Bonhoeffer faced the question that we must face only theoretically today: How does one resist evil as a Christian and still obey Christ's

command to act nonviolently?

For Bonhoeffer, faith and God were not separate from the realities of his life, including genocide, tyranny, and imprisonment. As Bonhoeffer wrote in a letter to his student and best friend Eberhard Bethge, "I'm still discovering right up to this moment that it is only by living completely in this world that one learns to have faith.... In so doing we throw ourselves completely into the arms of God, taking seriously not our own suffering, but those of God in the world — watching with Christ at Gethsemane. That, I think, is faith.... How can success make us arrogant or failure lead us astray when we share in God's suffering through life of this kind?"

Bonhoeffer was ready to live and prove his faith. When the Nazi state began its takeover of the German church, he helped form the Confession Church, a new church of resistance. He and his colleague Franz Hildebrandt urged the church to be "the voice of the dumb."

"Only those who cry for the Jews are allowed to sing Gregorian chants!" he added.

Bonhoeffer also took great risk to travel widely to serve churches

to promote positive relations between faiths. He met George Bell, bishop of Chichester, while serving churches in London, and encouraged him to share the austere progress of Nazism with the rest of the world.

Later, when Bonhoeffer was moved to Flossenbug concentration camp and his death was imminent, he sent a message to Bell stating that "for me this is the end, but also the beginning.... I believe in the principle of our universal Christian brotherhood, which also rises above all national interests, and that our victory is certain."

In April 1943, the young theologian was arrested by the Gestapo on charges of "subversion of the armed forces" and sent to prison where he spent the remaining days of his life.

"Who was he, we ask, and mean by the question, what was his life like? Who is he, we ask, and mean by that question, what influence does his work continue to have now?" writes Eberhard Bethge, in the biography *Costly Grace*. Bonhoeffer answers this question in his own poem "Who Am I," written from his Berlin prison cell: "Whoever I am, thou knowest, O God. I am thine."

## CBF fears coverage cancellation; moves staff, missionary benefits

ATLANTA (ABP) — Sent shopping by Southern Baptist Convention leaders for a new carrier for retirement and insurance plans for its employees and 62 missionaries, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship announced March 27 it will transfer its business from the Annuity Board to the Minister and Ministries Benefit Board of the American Baptist Churches in the USA.

The move was negotiated because of growing concern that the Dallas-based Annuity Board would be pressured to drop coverage for the Atlanta-based Fellowship, an alternative missions-delivery agency for moderate Southern Baptists, said Fellow-

ship Coordinator Cecil Sherman.

SBC leaders have "resolutely sought to force those of us in CBF from every nook and cranny of the Southern Baptist house we helped build," Sherman said in a prepared statement. Recent actions by the SBC Executive Committee, Sherman continued, "have made it clear that a decision to exclude us from participation in the Annuity Board is not a matter of 'if' but 'when.'"

The American Baptist "M&M Board," as it is commonly called, will offer employee benefits to the Fellowship "in response to the critical needs of our Baptist colleagues in the ministry of

Jesus Christ," said Daniel Weiss, ABC general secretary. The benefits are offered with no stipulation about organizational ties to the 1.5 million-member ABC.

Sherman said he has written Annuity Board President Paul Powell to inform him the Fellowship will end its relationship with the Annuity Board by July 1.

With the M&M Board, Fellowship employees will receive hospitalization and health insurance benefits comparable to those offered by the Annuity Board without additional costs to employees, said Sherman.

## Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx  
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TAY FJHPNT BTYV OFVB OPTO YTQ PVGVMH JX  
GJJY TAY YMTGVMH JX GTOVM XJM OPV  
IJACMVCTOZJA, TAY XJM OPV TUOTM JX OPV  
UJMY, VSVA NAOJ OPZH YTQ, ZA OPV EUTIV  
GPZIP PV HPJNUY IPJHV.

FJHPNT AZAV: OGVAOQ-HVSVA

This week's clue: A equals N.

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Proverbs Twenty: One.

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